

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

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R 172245Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

INFO COMIDEASTFOR

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

SECDEF

CNO :RUEKJCS/JCS

CINCUSNAVEUR

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115921

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BA, IR

SUBJECT: SHAH'S STATEMENT ON FOREIGN FORCES IN GULF

REFS.: MANAMA 545; TEHRAN 4508

1. SHAH'S STATEMENT AS REPORTEDLY MADE TO LONDON
OBSERVER WAS MENTIONED BY DEPASSTSECY SOBER IN CONVERSATION
MAY 15 WITH IRANIAN FONMIN KHALATBARY (WHO HERE AS MEMBER
OF SHAH'S PARTY). SOBER NOTED THAT BAHRAINI OFFICIALS HAD
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MADE REFERENCE TO REPORT OF SHAH'S COMMENTS IN RECENT
DISCUSSIONS WITH US CONCERNING STATUS OF MIDEASTFOR.
SOBER THEN EXPLAINED TO KHALATBARY WHERE WE STAND AT THIS
TIME IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOB ON FORMAL STATUS OF

MIDEASTFOR, NOTING APPARENT GOB SENSITIVITY CONCERNING REACTION FROM OTHER STATES IN REGION THIS SUBJECT. KHALATBARY INTERJECTED THAT GOB IS ALSO SENSITIVE TO OPINION IN ITS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND SOBER CONCURRED.

2. SOBER SAID HE HOPED LONDON OBSERVER STORY WOULD NOT PREJUDICE CHANCES FOR EARLY CONCLUSION OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOB. HE RECALLED THAT GOI HAD PLAYED VERY HELPFUL ROLE LAST YEAR IN SENDING EMISSARY TO MANAMA TO ENCOURAGE GOB TO AGREE TO RETENTION OF MIDEASTFOR. KHALATBARY

RESPONDED THAT VISIT TO TEHRAN BY SENIOR GOB OFFICIALS IS EXPECTED IN NEAR FUTURE AND THIS MATTER WOULD BE KEPT IN MIND. SOBER THANKED KHALATBARY AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GOI MIGHT AGAIN BE HELPFUL TO US ON THIS MATTER.

3. COMMENT: KHALATBARY CHOSE NEITHER TO CONFIRM NOR REFUTE POSSIBLE IMPRESSION FROM LONDON OBSERVER STORY THAT SHAH MIGHT NO LONGER WISH TO SEE MIDEASTFOR PRESENCE AT BAHRAIN. THIS MAY HAVE RESULTED FROM NATURAL RELUCTANCE ON KHALATBARY'S PART TO SECOND-GUESS THE SHAH WITHOUT BEING CERTAIN OF HIS GROUND. HOWEVER, HE LEFT US WITH PRETTY CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT HE HIMSELF HAD NOT THOUGHT THAT GOI POSITION CONCERNING MIDEASTFOR HAD CHANGED IN THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS; THIS WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH EMB TEHRAN BELIEF AS REPORTED ITS REFTEL. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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